

Mr. Speaker, last week, the House passed House Resolution 492, recognizing this week as High-Performance Building Week. The resolution aims to provide greater public awareness about the benefits of high-performance buildings, and it works to increase education about the impact buildings have on our environment.

Each year, our homes, offices, schools, and other buildings consume 70 percent of our electricity, 60 percent of all raw materials, and they emit 40 percent of all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the U.S. By designing and building high-performance buildings, we reduce energy consumption and our carbon footprint. We save both water and raw materials. We save demolition and construction debris from going into landfills. Most importantly, high-performance building construction creates good-paying jobs that give workers the valuable skills they need to excel in a clean energy economy.

It is my hope that Members will use this week to highlight the importance that buildings have on our environment and for Congress to continue to support future research, development and the deployment of high-performance building technologies.